

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE REPORT

May 23, 32012

9:05–10:00 am

140 West Pine Street

Members Present Adam Hertz (chair), Bob Jaffe, Caitlin Copple, Ed Childers, Jon Wilkins, and Dick Haines, Marilyn Marler

Members Absent: Dave Strohmaier, Cynthia Wolken,

Others Present: Donna Gaukler, Bob Worthen, David Selvage

I. ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Approve minutes.

Minutes of [May 16, 2012](#) were approved as submitted.

II. FINAL CONSIDERATION AGENDA ITEMS

III. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. **[Discussion Date: 05/23/12]** Appointment of Christine Ryan to the Parks and Recreation Board, completing a vacated term ending April 30, 2014. ([memo](#)) – Regular Agenda (Mayor Engen) (Referred to committee: 05/14/12)(**REMOVE FROM AGENDA**)

Motion: The Committee recommends City Council approve the Mayor's appointment of Christine Ryan to the Parks and Recreation Board, completing a vacated term ending April 30, 2014.

There was an opening on the Parks and Recreation Board as one of the members resigned prior to the end of the term. There were two applications received for this position and the Mayor recommended the appointment of Christine Ryan to fill the vacated term.

There was no discussion and it was moved to approve the Mayor's appointment. All committee members voted in favor of the motion.

IV. REGULAR AGENDA

1. **[Discussion Date: 05/23/12]** Update on Parks Maintenance Operations. ([memo](#))— Regular Agenda (Bob Worthen) (Referred to committee: 05/21/12)(**INFORMATIONAL ITEM, REMOVE FROM AGENDA**)

Bob Worthen, Parks Maintenance Manager started with the City in January 2012. His months at Parks have been busy and he provided the committee with information related to efforts to maximize efficiency as well as meet customer service demands. The Department has been working on an on-going reorganization to address some challenges including increased parkland and right of way acreages, under or inequitable staffing levels, and budget reductions. Re-organizing of the districts also empowers and supports staff leadership structure.

Mr. Worthen provided the geographic locations of the old and new districts along with number of developed park sites, acres and square miles. Districts were created to provide measurable performance objectives, create uniform and attainable service stands and are part of the ongoing process to utilize Best Management Practices. Another tool put into place is using a time matrix to develop clear expectations for core maintenance services and standards, and to facilitate in time management. Some of the goals included decreased travel miles and improved customer service through identified service standards.

David Selvage provided the committee with an update on the progress of a project previously approved by City Council, the installation of AVL-GPS units in Parks Department vehicles. GPS is a Best Management Practices tool to help support Parks & Recreation managers and staff in fulfilling a commitment to delivery of quality services, safety, efficiency, sustainability and value.

The project was funded through a Federal Energy Efficiency Grant allowed City to purchase 52 GPS units. The cost of tracking and reporting services is \$14,652/year.

Some of the goals of the system were to:

- Fuel Consumption Savings: 3% to 10% reduction
- Increase productivity: 18.7% - 25% increase
- Improved Service response: 85% reduction in response time

- Fleet reduction: 8% decrease in fleet vehicles
- Eliminate personal use of Vehicles: 99% compliance

The reports available are useful to train staff regarding vehicle use awareness and setting efficiency goals as the following information is tracked:

- Miles travelled
- Idling time
- Speed awareness
- Plan and train on route selection
- Measure downtime (length of time a vehicle sits at the shop or yard)

Data can also provide a basis for regular evaluation and assessment of Park Maintenance Districts. The information can be used to adapt and modify services based on staff feedback and community demands.

Public Comment:

Jerry Ballas commented that this program may not have been the best use of resources given the fact the Mayor is asking for a 3% tax increase and the money may have been better spent elsewhere.

Paul Callahan commented that this type of program can lead to deterioration in employer, employee relationships.

HELD IN COMMITTEE

1. Discuss the city's strategy to complete a boundary survey of Greenough Park. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Dave Strohmaier) (Referred to committee: 04/04/2011)
2. Approve and authorize the Mayor to sign an amendment to the agreement with Territorial Landworks, Inc. (TLI) in an amount not to exceed \$136,702.37 for professional services, including engineering, surveying, and construction management for Project #PR 08-02 GCT, Grant Creek Trail, CTEP #STPE 8199(105). ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Dave Shaw) (Referred to committee: 10/24/11)
3. Safety aspects of management of the urban deer population in the City of Missoula. ([memo](#))—Regular Agenda (Dick Haines and Jon Wilkins) (Referred to committee: 03/26/2012)

The Meeting adjourned at 10:00 am.